

Aviation Law Conference

Re Aviation and Government (No.2) [2026] ALAANZ 42



PRELIMINARY PROGRAM



Canberra
6 - 8 May 2026

REGISTER NOW



wtw

Conference Venues

**QR CODE
REGISTRATION**



Cocktail

**National Press Club
of Australia**



Conference

**Dining Room &
House of Reps:
Old Parliament
House**



Dinner

**Australian War
Memorial**

Register at: <https://na.eventcloud.com/ehome/alaanz2026/home/>



AVIATION LAW CONFERENCE



AVIATION LAW ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND 2026 Conference Committee Members

Conference Chair

Patrick Hornby

General Counsel, Australian Transport
Safety Bureau

Committee Members

Ming Li

Special Counsel, Australian Transport
Safety Bureau

Garrick Larkin

National Manager, Legal Division, Civil
Aviation Safety Authority

Melissa Kiewiet

Senior Lawyer, Legal Division, Civil
Aviation Safety Authority

Henry Wei

Legal Officer, Australian Transport Safety
Bureau

Nevin Agnew

Partner, Holding Redlich

Welcome from Conference Committee

On behalf of the Organising Committee, I invite you to join us for the **42nd Annual ALAANZ conference**, in Canberra, Australia, between **Wednesday 6 and Friday 8 May 2026**.

Incorporating the 2026 theme, the conference title is *Re Aviation and Government (No.2)* [2026] ALAANZ 42. The 'No.2' builds on the success of the similarly themed and highly successful Canberra conference in 2016.

A decade later we are back bigger and better. We have matched the conference theme with a suite of notable appearances from the top echelons of government, industry and the legal profession. All your favourite matters are listed for hearing: airlines, airports, litigation, space, defence, competition, insurance, safety and more.

The conference venues have been chosen to whet your appetite for debate and to experience walking the 'halls of power'. The conference will open on the Wednesday night with a cocktail function in the National Press Club of Australia. We are privileged to have Captain Deborah Lawrie AM join us as a speaker. Captain Lawrie won a landmark 1980 High Court anti-discrimination case that helped pave the way for women commercial airline pilots.

The conference sessions will be held in the Members dining room at Old Parliament House. On the Friday we will host a debate in the House of Representatives chamber on a mock bill to nationalise an airline. A few familiar conference delegates are expected to make appearances. Who do you imagine as a Prime Minister or Speaker of the House?

The dinner on the Thursday night will be at the new ANZAC Atrium at the Australian War Memorial. We will transport you all there and back from the conference hotel - Hotel Kurrajong - chosen for its political history, heritage listed elegance, and close proximity to Old Parliament House and the National Press Club.

It is set to be great conference so make sure you register early. Branch stacking the event with delegates from the States, Territories, New Zealand and other countries, is encouraged.

The committee looks forward to seeing you in Canberra, 2026.

See you in May!

Patrick Hornby |
ALAANZ Conference Chair

Conference Secretariat

Mecca Concepts Pty Ltd, Melbourne

MECCA**CONCEPTS**

Conference Preliminary Program & Registration Brochure sponsored by

**Colin
Biggers
& Paisley**

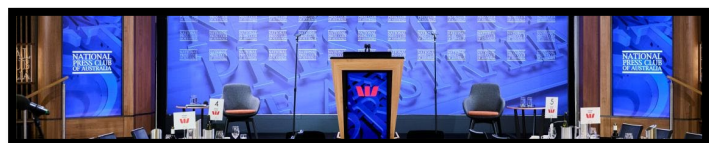


PROGRAM OVERVIEW



Wednesday 6 May – Day 1

- 2:00 – 3:00pm **Accident Investigation Lab Tour**
Australian Transport Safety Bureau
- 3:30 – 4:30pm **Old Parliament House Tour**
- 5:00 – 6:00pm **Conference Registration**
National Press Club of Australia
- 6:00 - 8:00pm **Welcome Cocktail Function**
Sponsored by HWL Ebsworth
National Press Club of Australia
Captain Deborah Lawrie AM
Longest flying female airline pilot in the world and winner of a landmark High Court aviation equal opportunity anti-discrimination case. Author of "Touching the Sky". **Q&A with:**
Christie McClure, Chief Counsel, Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communication and the Arts



National Press Club of Australia

Thursday 7 May – Day 2

Members' Dining Rooms: Old Parliament House

- 8:00 – 8:30am **Registration and Arrival Tea and Coffee**
Coffee Cart sponsored by Sparke Helmore Lawyers
- 8:30 – 8:35am **Conference Welcome**
Patrick Hornby, Conference Chair
- 8:35 – 8:50am **Opening Address**
- 8:50 – 9:40am **Session 1 (Panel)**
Airlines: current challenges
Sponsored by Wotton Kearney
Chair: James Cooper, Partner, Wotton Kearney
Moderator: Professor Alan Tan, National University of Singapore.
Jennifer Page, General Counsel and Company Secretary, Air New Zealand
Rebecca Walker, General Manager – Legal, Virgin Australia
Ben Jones, Head of Legal and Company Secretary, QANTAS



Member's Dining Room – Old Parliament House

9:40 – 10:10am

Session 2

Aviation Industry Ombudsman

Chair: Nevin Agnew, Partner, Holding Redlich
James McIntyre, Special Counsel
HWL Ebsworth

10:10 – 10:40am

Session 3

Competition & Regulatory Developments in Aviation

Chair: Henry Wei, Lawyer, Australian Transport Safety Bureau
David Cranston, Executive Director, Airports and Aviation, Australian Competition and Consumer Commission

10:40 – 11:10am

Morning Tea

Sponsored by Sedgwick Australia Pty Ltd

11:10am - 12:00pm

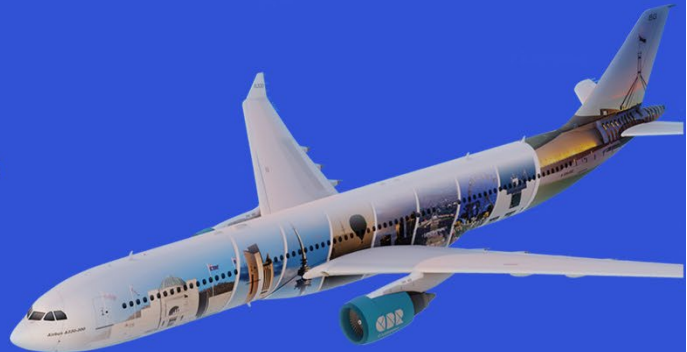
Session 4 (Panel)

Advanced Air Mobility

Chair: Melissa Kiewiet, Senior Lawyer, Legal Division, Civil Aviation Safety Authority
Florence Takinana, Manager Legal & Enforcement/Board Secretary, Civil Aviation Authority of Fiji
Richard Stocker, Branch Manager, Airworthiness & Engineering, Civil Aviation Safety Authority
Bob Criner, Chief Executive Officer, Stralis Aircraft



PROGRAM OVERVIEW



12:00 – 12:45pm

Session 5

David Boughen Address

Sponsored by Kennedys

Chair: Tristan Thompson, Partner,
Kennedys, Singapore

Professor Alan Tan, National
University of Singapore

12:45 - 1:45pm

Lunch

Sponsored by McLarens Aviation

1:45 – 2:45pm

Session 6 (Panel)

Litigation

Chair: Andrew Tulloch, Partner, Colin,
Biggers & Paisley

Tom Brennan, Senior Counsel, 13 Wentworth
Chambers

Additional speaker: TBA

2:45 - 3pm

AGM

3:00 – 3:30pm

Afternoon tea

Sponsored by HFW

3:30 – 4:00pm

Session 7

Airservices Australia - OneSKY

Chair: Tony Pyne, Senior Aviation Adviser,
McLarens Aviation

Dominic Gyngell, General Counsel
& Board Secretariat, Airservices Australia

4:00 – 4:50pm

Session 8 (Panel)

Airport Developments

Chair: Jayne Heatley, Partner, HWL
Ebsworth

Stephen Byron, Chief Executive Officer,
Canberra Airport & Canberra Airport Group

Andrew Giles, Acting General Counsel,
North Queensland, North Queensland
Airports

4:50 - 5:00pm

Close Day 2

Conference Committee

7:00 – 10:30pm

Conference Dinner

*Sponsored by WTW Global Aviation
& Space*

ANZAC Atrium, Australian War Memorial

6:30pm: Buses depart Hotel Kurrajong

Life Memberships Presentation



ANZAC Atrium – Australian War Memorial

Friday 8 May – Day 3

Members' Dining Rooms: Old Parliament House

8:30 – 8:50am

Ben Chiffley Walk

Self-guided walk from Ben Chiffley's room at
Hotel Kurrajong to Old Parliament House

8:45 – 9:20am

Registration and Arrival Tea and Coffee

*Coffee Cart sponsored by Sparke Helmore
Lawyers*



PROGRAM OVERVIEW



9:20 – 10:10am

Session 9 (Panel) Government Aviation Agencies – Future Direction

Sponsored by Civil Aviation Safety Authority

Chair: Pip Spence PSM, Director Aviation Safety, Civil Aviation Safety Authority

Rob Sharp, Chief Executive Officer, Airservices Australia

Angus Mitchell, Chief Commissioner, Australian Transport Safety Bureau

10:10 – 11:00am

Session 10 Insurance

Chair: Mark Sainsbury, Sparke Helmore Lawyers

Eoghan McCarthy, WTW Australia, Global Aviation & Space

Additional speaker: TBA

11:00 – 11:30am

Morning Tea

Sponsored by Sedgwick Australia Pty Ltd

11:30am – 12:20pm

Session 11 (Panel) Sustainable use of Outer Space

Chair: Garrick Larkin, National Manager, Legal Division, Civil Aviation Safety Authority
Alex Senata, Executive Director, Australian Space Agency

Katherine O'Connell, Principal Legal Officer, Office of International Law, Attorney – General's Department

Additional speaker: TBA

12:20 – 1:10pm

Session 12 (Panel)

Control of the Air

Chair: Ming Li, Special Counsel, Australian Transport Safety Bureau

Wing Commander Lee Warren, Director Legal, Royal Australian Air Force

Air Commodore Peter Robinson CSC CDS, Director General Air Command Operations, Joint Force Air Component Commander, Royal Australian Air Force

1:10 – 2:00pm

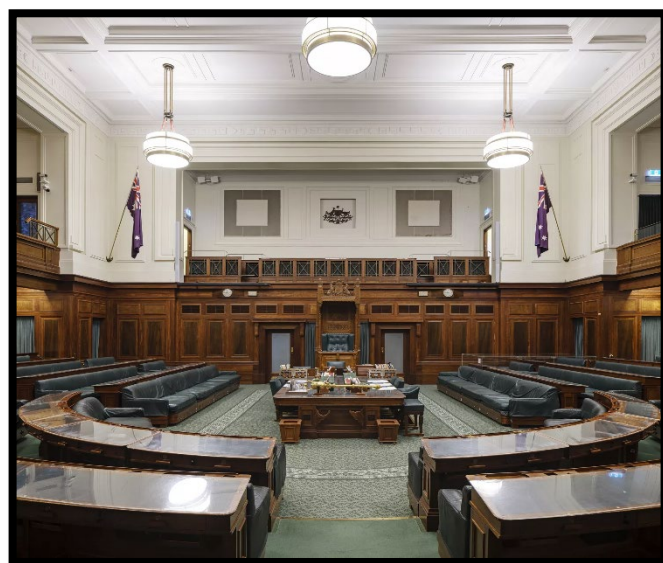
Lunch

2:00 – 3:10pm

Session 13:

House of representatives Mock Parliamentary Debate: Airline Nationalisation

Speaker, Minister, Shadow Minister, Prime Minister and more to be announced. The committee and select conference delegates will take on a variety of roles in the chamber that hosted some of the biggest nation defining moments of the 20th century.



House of Representatives – Old Parliament House

3:10 – 3:20pm

Closing remarks



General Information

Conference Venues

Old Parliament House, located in the national parliamentary triangle, was the seat of the Parliament of Australia from 1927 to 1988. The venue is surrounded by gardens. It is situated in front of the current Parliament House and looks across Lake Burley Griffin to the Australian War Memorial where the conference dinner will be held.

Today, Old Parliament House has become a museum, preserving the building and its history. The building is officially known as the Museum of Australian Democracy at Old Parliament House.

The conference sessions will be held in Members' Dining Rooms which have sweeping views up to the current Parliament House. On the last day a session will be held in the House of Representatives Chamber.

The cocktail function will be held at the National Press Club of Australia. The venue is a nationally recognised institution, hosting debates and discussions that shape Australia today and into the future.

The new ANZAC Atrium at the Australian War Memorial has been chosen for the conference dinner to provide delegates with a unique experience. Delegates will be seated amidst some impressive artefacts from the War Memorial's collection.

The conference hotel is Hotel Kurrajong, Canberra. The hotel is heritage listed and offers stylish, luxury accommodation. The hotel opened in 1926 at the birth of the nation's capital and is steeped in political history.

Hotel Kurrajong is close to Old Parliament House and the National Press Club. Buses will pick up and drop off from the hotel for the dinner at the Australian War Memorial.

Conference Registration

Quoted Registration fees are in Australian dollars (AUD) and include 10% Goods and Services Tax (GST).

All ALAANZ Conference Registrations are done online via the conference website.

Please register online:

<https://na.eventscloud.com/ehome/alaanz2026/home/>

If you are having difficulty registering online, please contact Conference Secretariat on rachel@meccaconcepts.com.au

Conference Confirmation

Confirmation of your registration, including accommodation if booked, will be sent to you electronically via the online conference registration platform.

Registration Cancellation

All cancellations must be notified in writing to the Conference Secretariat – MECCA Concepts.

A refund of the registration fee less a cancellation fee of \$100 will apply to cancellation(s) received on or before 30 days out from the start of the conference. After this date, no refund or cancellation will be possible, although substitute delegates are welcome.

All refunds will be processed after the Conference.

Accommodation Cancellation

Cancellation of accommodation rooms less than 30 days before the event may incur the full accommodation charges for all nights booked.

Student Registration

The ALAANZ 2026 Conference has developed a student registration rate to encourage full time students to participate and further educate themselves in Aviation Law. Contact Rachel Washington, conference Secretariat at rachel@meccaconcepts.com.au for information on student registrations.

Dress Code

Dress code for the Conference and Welcome function is Smart Casual or Business attire.

Dress code for the Conference dinner is jacket and tie, or after five Apparel.

General Registration information

Every care has been taken to ensure this program/registration brochure is correct and the time of printing, however the Conference Organising committee reserves the right to alter the program.

Included in Registration fees:

Full delegates – (Early Bird, Member, Non-member)

- All conference Sessions
- Welcome cocktail function – Wednesday night
- Morning and afternoon teas during conference as listed in program
- Lunch- Thursday and Friday
- Conference dinner – Thursday night
- Name Badge
- Access to (approved) presentation papers online - via password protected access after the conference

Day Registration - (Early Bird, Member, Non-member)

- All conference Sessions on registered day
- Morning and afternoon teas during conference day as listed in program
- Lunch- on conference day
- Name Badge
- Access to (approved) presentation papers online - via password protected access after the conference

Social Functions

Social functions for day registrations can be purchased additionally to the day conference registration rate.

- Welcome Cocktail Function - Wednesday night
- Conference dinner – Thursday night

AVIATION LAW ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND LTD.

ABN 47 083 689 641



42nd Annual Conference – 6 – 8 May, 2026

REGISTRATION

All ALAANZ 2026 Conference registrations are completed online via the conference registration website.

All prices are in Australian Dollars and include GST.

To register please go to: <https://na.eventscloud.com/ehome/alaanz2026/home/>

* NON-MEMBER REGISTRATION FEE INCLUDES A ONE YEAR MEMBERSHIP TO THE ASSOCIATION.

A MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM WILL BE SENT TO YOU AFTER REGISTRATION.

Should you have difficulties registering online please contact:

Conference Secretariat - Rachel Washington on rachel@meccaconcepts.com.au

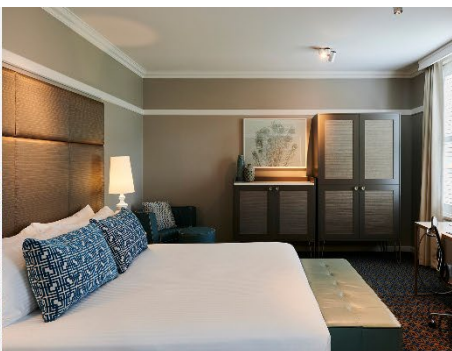
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REGISTRATION PRICES

EARLY BIRD	\$1340 AUD (before 28 Feb)
MEMBER	\$1540 AUD
NON MEMBER *	\$1640 AUD
DAY REGISTRATION - Thursday OR Friday	\$700 AUD (does not include social functions)
WELCOME COCKTAIL FUNCTION TICKET	\$80 AUD (day delegate and accompanying partners)
CONFERENCE DINNER TICKET	\$200 AUD (day delegate and accompanying partners)



ACCOMMODATION REGISTRATION

Please book your accommodation online when registering for the conference. The preferred conference hotel is: Hotel Kurrajong, 8 National Circuit, Barton ACT. The hotel is close to the conference venue at Old Parliament House. The Conference has reserved a block of rooms at Hotel Kurrajong at a reduced Group Rate. To obtain this rate please book your accommodation through the Conference Secretariat.

Accommodation is limited - book early to avoid disappointment.

CLASSIC QUEEN ROOM \$215 AUD ROOM ONLY PER NIGHT

CLASSIC QUEEN ROOM \$240 INCLUDING BREAKFAST FOR ONE

ACCOMMODATION CANCELLATION

Hotel Kurrajong may charge the delegate for all nights if accommodation is cancelled at less than 30 days prior to the booking.

Please contact Conference Secretariat - Rachel Washington on rachel@meccaconcepts.com.au if you are having difficulties booking accommodation.

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For all Conference and Sponsorship enquiries contact:

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